

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)	
)	
v.)	CRIMINAL NO. PWG-18-463
)	
MING ZHANG,)	
)	
Defendant.)	
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UNITED STATES’ MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY ORDER OF FORFEITURE

The United States of America, by its attorney, Robert K. Hur, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, respectfully moves this Court for the issuance of a Preliminary Order of Forfeiture in the above-captioned case pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C), 21 U.S.C. § 853, 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c), and Rule 32.2(b) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. A proposed Preliminary Order of Forfeiture is submitted herewith. In support thereof, the United States sets forth the following:

1. On September 6, 2018, the United States of America filed an Information, charging Ming Zhang (the “Defendant”) with Conspiracy to Transport Stolen Funds, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 (Count One). ECF No. 1.
2. The Information also included a forfeiture allegation, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C), 21 U.S.C. § 853, 28 U.S.C. 2461(c), which provided notice that the United States intended to seek the forfeiture, upon conviction of the Defendant, of the offense alleged in Count One of the Information.
3. On October 11, 2018, the Defendant pled guilty to the offense alleged in Count One of the Information. ECF. No. 6. As part of his guilty plea, the Defendant agreed to forfeit to the United States all right, title and interest in the following items that the Defendant agreed

constitute money, property, and/or assets derived from or obtained by the Defendant as a result of, or used to facilitate the commission of, the Defendant's offense: at least \$1,000 in U.S. currency in the form of a money judgment (the "Subject Property").

4. Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C), 21 U.S.C. § 853, 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c), and Rule 32.2(b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the United States is now entitled to a Preliminary Order of Forfeiture against the Subject Property.

5. Upon the issuance of a Preliminary Order of Forfeiture and pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(n)(1) and Rule 32.2(b)(6)(C) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the United States shall publish, for thirty (30) consecutive calendar days on the government forfeiture website www.forfeiture.gov, notice of the Preliminary Order of Forfeiture, notice of the United States' intent to dispose of the Subject Property, and notice that any person, other than the Defendant, having or claiming a legal interest in the Subject Property must file a petition with the Court within sixty (60) days after the first day of publication on the government forfeiture website or within thirty (30) days after receipt of actual notice, whichever is earlier.

6. This notice shall state that the petition shall be for a hearing to adjudicate the validity of the petitioner's alleged interest in Subject Property, shall be signed by the petitioner under penalty of perjury, and shall set forth the nature and extent of the petitioner's right, title or interest in the forfeited Subject Property and any additional facts supporting the petitioner's claim and the relief sought.

7. The United States may also, to the extent practicable, provide direct written notice to any person known to have alleged an interest in the Subject Property that are the subject of the Preliminary Order of Forfeiture as a substitute for published notice as to those persons so notified.

WHEREFORE, the United States requests that this Court:

- (a) enter the Preliminary Order of Forfeiture in the form submitted herewith;
- (b) include the forfeiture, as set forth in the Preliminary Order of Forfeiture, in the oral pronouncement of the Defendant's sentence;
- (c) retain jurisdiction for the purpose of enforcing the forfeiture; and
- (d) incorporate the Preliminary Order of Forfeiture in the criminal judgment entered against the Defendant, pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 32.2(b)(4).

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT K. HUR
United States Attorney,

By: /s/
Erin B. Pulice
Molissa H. Farber
Assistant United States Attorneys

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Motion for Preliminary Order of Forfeiture, as well as the proposed Preliminary Order of Forfeiture, were filed through the Electronic Case Filing system and will be sent electronically to the registered participants as identified on the Notice of Electronic Filing.

Dated: November 18, 2019

/s/ _____
Erin B. Pulice
Assistant United States Attorney